

**Minutes of the Newmarket Vision  
Town Centre / Retail, Local Economy and Tourism Delivery Group  
held at 10.00 a.m. on Monday, 5 March, 2018 at the Newmarket Town  
Council Offices**

**Present:**

Richard Goss	John Smithson
Roberta Bennett (Minutes)	Inspector Mark Shipton
Peter Hulbert	Rachel Wood
Boyd Nicholas	Sara Beckett
Warwick Hirst	Graham Philpot
Michael Jefferys	

**Apologies:**

William Gittus, Julie Eden, Christine Rush, Di Robertshaw

**1. Minutes of the last Meeting dated 15 January, 2018**

The minutes of the last meeting were agreed as correct.

SB referred back to minutes from 23.10.17 concerned that it was uncertain of the future of the Tourism Sub Group, but wanted to make it clear and be noted that the Tourism Sub Group will continue to remain a sub group of the NV TRET Delivery Group.

**2. Green Corridor update – John Smithson**

**Lighting** – it has been established that the lights on the George Lambton fields are owned by FHDC and repairs have been arranged.

**Land ownership** - Work to the triangle of land near to the Exeter Road entrance had been delayed due to poor weather and working to protect the wildlife habitat, but will start this week.

**Litter** – new bins had been put in place but some locations may be revisited following resident comments.

**Benches** – ongoing project, hoping to install one by the end of April and await resident feedback regarding location.

**Ironwork** – Permission is awaited from SCC Highways for temporary footpath closure for the installation.

**Feedback to the Steering Group about the role of the TRET vs vision**

**objectives:** It was noted that Parks found it useful to attend NV TRET Delivery Group meetings and it gives an advantageous opportunity to communicate and receive important feedback.

**S106 Query** - raised regarding S106 funding and YBR, BN confirmed that the Green Corridor is in the Local Plan which the YBR is part of.

Issue raised with residents spotting needles, drug paraphernalia and condoms – JS confirmed that FHDC are aware.

**“Rubbish Friends”** are a group of volunteers who collect rubbish. Litter picking equipment can be supplied by FHDC and if West Suffolk bags are left by dog or litter bins, they will be collected as part of the usual route.

### 3. **Policing Newmarket Update - Inspector Mark Shipton**

MS reported the Police are working in the Guineas with issues relating to children and ASB. Have been trying to engage with them for 8 – 10 months. Prefer to work on an encouraging way but there have been instances where the Youth Offending Service has had to be engaged. Arrests and criminal behaviour orders are used as a last resort.

Drugs/ Velocity / County Lines – there has been three arrest warrants executed recently with large sums of money and drugs recovered. MS reported that there are more plans to carry out enforcement action. All were encouraged to follow the Police and Inspector Shipton on Twitter

Now set up in the new police station by Tesco, Official reopening was to be rescheduled due to adverse weather. It is a positive way forward to be working closely with other emergency partners.

**PCSOs** - The Town Council had written to PCC and two Councillors would be attending a meeting with him this week to follow up. Reply awaited.

**Parking** – continues to be a huge issue – **ACTION:** RG take to Steering Group and write to Cllr Dave Bowman and Mayor regarding issue.

### 4. **Specific Actions of the sub groups**

#### **Town Centre Sub Group**

- **High Street Project Working Group brief update** – Boyd Nicolas  
The High Street Design Internal consultation finishes on 9 March, 2018. Following revisions and review will be opened for public consultation July / August.

It was noted there was a Town Council scheme to improve the area surrounding the Clock Tower.

**Retailers Sub** - Group Di Robertshaw  
DR had sent her apologies, so no update available.

#### **The BID update** - Graham Philpot

- The Business Awards took place in January, plan to repeat every year as positive feedback from levy payers.
- Footfall figures had been received but some further analysis as need to make sure that the data was accurate.
- BID to focus on Christmas as events and are being more static with spend. Also working with Discover Newmarket. There would be a town event in the summer commemorating the end of the 1914 – 18 war.
- Homelessness – There were some issues with homelessness, BID and TC are working with a Cambridge based charity called Winter Comfort to encourage people to donate to charity to support homeless rather than giving money to the homeless.
- Haverhill and Bury St Edmunds have night shelters but there is no provision in Newmarket. Agencies are working together to review and improve the situation.

### **Local Economy Sub Group**

Some of the smaller shops left vacant were being re let, but some are harder to fill as the rents are high.

### **Tourism Sub Group – Rachel Wood**

RW has reviewed the sub group aims and on 15 March, the next meeting, will be looking at these and zoning in on two or three aims and will concentrate on these for the short term.

- Car parking map was still in production
- Blue plaque scheme starting up again.

Noted that Discover Newmarket is the outward facing brand as the DMO and that Love Newmarket is the inward facing brand.

It was suggested that Megan Pollexfen, Discover Newmarket be invited to join TRET. **ACTION:** RG to invite Megan to present to next NV TRET Delivery Group meeting regarding their work.

## **5. Any Other Business**

Gritting – The Town council would be considering pavement gritting but RB would circulate a SCC document regarding winter safety. BID recommended that Town Council lead on this.

<https://www.suffolk.gov.uk/assets/Roads-and-transport/maintaining-roads-pavements-and-verges/Winter-Gritting-information-pack-Revised-Dec-17.pdf>

**ACTION:** RG invite Ross at Guineas to next meeting.

## **6. Next Meeting Date:** Monday, 16 April, Sir Ernest Cassell Room, NTC

### **Future Dates:**

Monday, 25 June, 2018 (please note amended date).

Monday, 30 July, 2018

Monday, 10 September, 2018